

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 19, 2005, and the patents cited therein have been carefully reviewed, and in view of the above changes and following remarks reconsideration and allowance of all the claims pending in the application are respectfully requested.

The Amendment To The Title

Applicant has amended the title to improve the form of the title. In particular, Applicant has amended the title to now be "PIXEL-BASED IMAGE RENDERING SYSTEM".

The Amendments To The Specification And The Abstract Of The Disclosure

Applicant has amended the specification at various locations to improve the form of the specification. Additionally, Applicant has amended the Abstract of the Disclosure to improve the form of the Abstract of the Disclosure.

The Amendments To The Claims

Applicant has amended the claims to generally improve the form of the claims in accordance with U.S. patent law. More specifically, Applicant has amended each of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-17 and 20 to generally improve their respective forms by generally improving the language and punctuation, and for consistency with their respective independent claims.

Applicant has also amended the claims to better distinguish the claimed invention over the applied art. In particular, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 6 and 11 to include the subject matter of claim 19, which has been indicated to contain allowable subject matter. Regarding independent claim 1, Applicant has amended claim 1 to now include the concept of a first bit of the image-information bits that indicates whether color processing or monochrome processing should be performed for rendering a pixel and a second bit of the image-information data bits that indicates a type of halftone processing that should be performed for rendering the pixel. Independent claims 6 and 11 have been similarly amended.

Additionally, Applicant has canceled four (4) dependent claims (claims 3, 7, 18 and 19) and has added six (6) dependent claims (claims 21-26).

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Over Jacobs

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 16-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Jacobs, U.S. Patent No. 6,252,675 B1.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to any of claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 16-18 and 20 is not anticipated by Jacobs. As described above, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 6 to include subject matter from claim 19, which has been indicated to contain allowable subject matter. Additionally, claims 3, 7 and 18 have been canceled.

Regarding amended claim 1, Jacobs does not disclose or suggest a method of processing source image data for rendering an image having a plurality of pixels in which image information is associated with each pixel of the image, such that the image information for each pixel includes two image-information data bits, and such that a first bit of the image-information bits indicates whether color processing or monochrome processing should be performed for rendering the pixel and a second bit of the image-information data bits indicates a type of halftone processing that should be performed for rendering the pixel. In contrast, Jacobs uses a tag 216 that indicates pixel data as being above or below upper and lower threshold values and therefore needing a different grayscale halftone technique. (See Jacobs, column 6, line 55, through column 7, line 43.)

Thus, amended claim 1 is allowable over Jacobs. It follows that each of claims 2, 4 and 5, which each incorporate the limitations of amended claim 1, is allowable over Jacobs for at least the same reasons that amended claim 1 is considered allowable over Jacobs.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 6 is allowable over Jacobs for reasons that are similar to the reasons that amended claim 1 is considered allowable over Jacobs. It follows that claims 8-10, which each incorporate the limitations of amended claim 6, is allowable

- over Jacobs for at least the same reasons that amended claim 6 is considered allowable over Jacobs.

Regarding claims 16, 17 and 20, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 11, the base claims for each of claims 16, 17 and 20, is patentable over Jacobs for at least the same reasons that amended claim 1 is considered allowable over Jacobs. It follows that claims 16, 17 and 20 should also be allowable over Jacobs for at least the same reasons that amended claim 11 is considered allowable over Jacobs.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 16, 17 and 20.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Over Jacobs Which Incorporates Williams By Reference

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Jacobs, which incorporates Williams, U.S. Patent No. 5,327,262.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to claim 8 is not anticipated by Jacobs, which incorporates Williams. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that Jacob, which incorporates Williams, does not cure the deficiencies of Jacobs with respect to amended claim 1, the base claim of claim 8.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow claim 8.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Over Jacobs In View of Harrington

Claims 4, 5 and 11-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Jacobs in view of Harrington et al. (Harrington), U.S. Patent No. 6,137,918.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to any of claims 4, 5 and 11-15 is patentable over Jacob in view of Harrington. Applicant respectfully submits that Harrington does not cure the deficiencies of Jacob with respect to amended claims 1, the base claim of claims 4 and 5, and claim 11, the base claim of claims 12-15. Both claims 1 and 11

have been amended to include subject matter from claim 19, which has been indicated to contain allowable subject matter.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection and allow 4, 5 and 11-15.

Newly Added Claims

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter new claims 21-26. Support for these claims can be found in the specification, for example, page 10, line 12, through page 11, line 12, and Figure 4.

Applicant respectfully submits that each of new claims 21-26 is allowable over Jacob for at least the same reasons the respective base claims of new claims 21-26 are considered allowable.

CONCLUSION

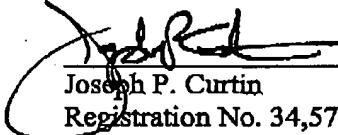
In view of the above amendments and arguments, it is urged that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find that a telephonic or personal interview would expedite passage to issue of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A general authorization under 37 C.F.R. § 1.25(b), second sentence, is hereby given to credit or debit Deposit Account No. 50-0803 for the instant filing and for any other fees during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18.

It is requested that this application be passed to issue with claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-17 and 20-26.

Respectfully submitted,

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